

RAJAH

regulation of the responsibilities of the Paramount Power towards the states:

I venture to offer that the first cardinal principle of the whole system, the maintenance of the supremacy of the Paramount Power, originates in the policy of Lord Wellesley and Lord Hardinge; that the second cardinal principle, the preservation of the autonomy of the feudatory states was clearly expressed in the proceedings which followed the mutiny during the viceroyalty of Lord Canning and has since been very emphatically affirmed by acts and proclamations of the Government; and that the third cardinal principle, *the denial of any right divine to govern wrongly*, has been established by the course taken by the Government on many occasions and notably in the trial and deposition of the Gaekwar of Baroda.

Lord Curzon's words are as true to-day as when they were first uttered thirty years ago:

I claim him (the native chief) as my colleague and partner. He cannot remain *vis-a-vis* the Empire, a loyal subject of His Majesty the King Emperor, and *vis-a-vis* his own people, a frivolous and irresponsible despot. He must justify and not abuse the authority committed to him. He must be the servant as well as the master of his people; he must learn that his revenues are not secured to him for his own selfish gratification, but for the good of his subjects; that his internal administration is only exempt from correction in proportion as it is honest, and that his *gadi* is not intended to be a divan of indulgence, but the stem seat of duty. His figure should not be merely known on the polo-ground or on the race-course or in the European hotel. His real work, his princely duty, lies among his own people. By this standard shall I, at any rate, judge him. By this test will he in the long run as a political institution perish or survive.

The policy of intervention has* been relaxed from time to time after the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms and now it has been completely abandoned and exists in theory only; although the Butler Committee states that intervention may be a duty: